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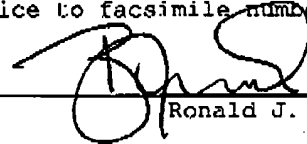
FEB 20 2007

PATENT
FINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/673,348 Confirmation No. 3442
Applicant : Atsushi FUKUI et al.
Filed : September 30, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1745
Examiner : Angela J. Martin
Dkt. No. : SNY-040
Cust. No. : 20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being
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Ronald J. Kubovcik

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 19, 2006**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 20, 2007

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2006. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Reconsideration and removal of the rejections of the claims is requested in view of the remarks that follow.

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